

Figure 3: Average Teacher Pay Versus Comparable Professions

Technical Notes

Average Teacher Salaries Compared with Professions Requiring Similar Education (Table I-3). Comparable occupations were determined using BLS Occupational Projections and Training Data in 2004 and retained and re-verified in 2007, in order to keep the same set of comparable occupations from previous salary surveys. Comparable occupations are those within the college education cluster, which held a bachelor's degree as the most significant source of postsecondary education. All teachers are excluded from the data. Occupations with the listing of "all other" are not included because 2000 data were not available. And the occupation category "airline pilots, co-pilots, and flight engineers" was excluded because wages in that category were more than two standard deviations from the mean.

Table I-3: Average Teacher Salaries and Employment Compared with Professions Requiring Similar Education, 2002 and 2007

	2002		2007		Percent Change	
		Annual		Annual		Annual
		Mean		Mean		Mean
Comparable Occupations	Employment	Wage	Employment	Wage	Employment	Wage
Accountants and auditors	888,690	\$53,230	1,115,010	\$63,180	25.47%	18.69%
Architects, except landscape and naval	87,700	62,530	106,830	73,650	21.81%	17.78%
Athletic trainers	13,500	36,070	14,970	40,720	10.89%	12.89%
Atmospheric and space scientists	7,210	61,000	8,750	78,960	21.36%	29.44%
Cartographers and photogrammetrists	8,040	45,180	11,460	54,480	42.54%	20.58%
Child, family and school social workers	259,990	35,640	265,090	41,920	1.96%	17.62%
Civil engineers	207,480	63,010	247,370	75,230	19.23%	19.39%
Computer software engineers, applications	356,760	73,800	495,810	85,660	38.98%	16.07%
Computer software engineers, systems software	255,040	75,840	349,140	90,780	36.90%	19.70%
Database administrators	102,090	59,080	116,340	70,260	13.96%	18.92%
Editors	106,520	47,010	105,920	55,020	-0.56%	17.04%
Environmental engineers	45,720	63,440	51,210	74,820	12.01%	17.94%
Financial managers	563,020	83,080	484,390	106,200	-13.97%	27.83%
Landscape architects	17,460	52,050	21,890	62,250	25.37%	19.60%
Market research analysts	122,000	60,260	220,740	66,980	80.93%	11.15%
Medical and public health social workers	1,03,180	38,920	120,060	46,320	16.36%	19.01%
Personal financial advisors	77,010	78,460	132,460	89,220	72.00%	13.71%
Public relations specialists	136,360	46,590	225,880	57,100	65.65%	22.56%
Sales engineers	79,300	69,200	75,940	86,350	-4.24%	24.78%
Social and community service managers	111,480	46,900	112,330	59,070	0.76%	25.95%
Surveyors	53,340	42,630	56,670	54,450	6.24%	27.73%
Writers and authors	41,990	50,300	44,310	60,120	5.53%	19.52%
Zoologists and wildlife biologists	12,970	49,250	17,830	58,480	37.47%	18.74%
Average	158,993	\$61,041	191,322	\$72,678	20.33%	19.07%
Median		\$59,080		\$66,980		
Teacher Average		\$44,367		\$51,009		14.97%

Notes: Employment and salary data are drawn from the National Compensation Survey, U.S. Department of Labor. The list of comparable occupations was determined using BLS Occupational Projections and Training Data in 2004 and retained and re-verified in 2007 in order to keep the same set of comparable occupations from previous salary surveys. Comparable occupations are those within the college education cluster, which had a bachelor's degree as the most significant source of postsecondary education. All teachers are excluded from the data. Occupations with the listing of "all other" are not included because 2000 data were not available. And the occupation category "airline pilots, co-pilots, and flight engineers" was excluded because wages in that category were more than two standard deviations from the mean.